tarsorum omnium dilatato, necnon œconomia specierum quæ in ficubus more *Blastophagorum* habitant.

Sp. 1. *Pachytomus Klugianus*, Westw.

Cupreo-æneus, tenuissime punctatissimus; antennis basi tantum luteis, abdomine piceo-fulvo, apice nigricanti; pedibus 4 anticis pallide flavescentibus, posticis piceis, geniculis luteis.

Long. corp. lin. $1\frac{1}{2}$.

Habitat in ficubus Ægypti. D. Klug.

In Mus. Westwood.

XLI. *On the Habits of the Genus* Sialis. *By* W. F. Evans, Esq.

[Read 25th April, 1844.]

As the habits of some of our most common insects appear to be little known, I have thought that the following observations on the natural history of the *Sialis lutarius* may probably be new and not entirely devoid of interest.

On the 25th of April I found, on the rushes round the margin of a small pond, a great many patches of eggs, and shortly observed many of the *Sialis lutarius* depositing them.

They form large patches of from two to three inches in length, generally encircling the whole rush near the top, but sometimes deposited on one side only, and extended to about a line in breadth.

I counted 100 in a square line, so that each batch may be fairly considered to contain from 2000 to 3000 eggs; the greater portion of which must consequently perish either in the egg or larva state; as, common as the insect is, and widely distributed throughout the country, we should be perfectly overwhelmed with the swarms of the perfect insect if such were permitted, when it is considered that round this one small pond there could not have been less than 100 patches of them.

The eggs are of a very singular form, and placed in a slanting position (Pl. XIX. fig. 4).

The females, whilst depositing them, appeared perfectly motionless on the rush, and varied considerably in size, being from five

lines to nearly double that in length. Some parts of the patches of eggs are of a much lighter colour than the rest.

On the third of May I found many of the eggs hatching, the little larvæ tumbling about in great numbers, with their bodies erected like the *Staphylinidæ*.

On putting them into water they swam about with the greatest activity, wriggling and undulating their bodies about much like a serpent or the tadpoles, and working their legs at the same time.

Their heads are remarkably large; but I have thought the accompanying sketch (Plate XIX. fig. 5) will better pourtray them than a written description, and I have also brought some of them alive and some eggs for exhibition.

XLII. *Remarks on the Entomology of New Zealand.* By Wm. Stephenson, Esq., Surgeon.

[Read 2d December, 1844.]

As the effects of insects, in harmonizing the productions of the earth in the grand scheme of the Omnipotent Being, are perhaps as much or even more conspicuous in New Zealand than in any other country, a few cursory remarks on the Entomology of these unexplored islands (drawn from observation on the spot) would no doubt be received with interest, had the task devolved upon one more capable of doing it justice.

It has been asserted in print that New Zealand affords few insects, but I am prepared with facts to prove that in those islands they abound in certain tribes; and the preponderance of some over that of others, in conjunction with divergency of form, will give an idea of the peculiarities of New Zealand Entomology. They are proportioned to the utility which each genus, tribe or family performs in a primeval world, where all is seen undisturbed by man. In this country, where vegetation is but slightly checked in winter by the frost, the face of which is extremely hilly, with deep precipitous ravines intervening, upon which there is a profusion of rain at all seasons, it may naturally be expected to be found as it is, viz. clothed with the most gigantic forms of vegetation.